

I. List: 205.601 Synthetic substances allowed for use in organic crop production

II. Category Use

- (e) As insecticides (including acaricides or mite control).
- (i) As plant disease control.

III. Committee Summary: Pertaining to oils (horticultural), comments were received saying that natural alternatives were available as replacements. Vegetable oils were mentioned as the natural product replacement, but were questioned to see if these are appropriate and effective. According to a representative of one California organic certifier, all the vegetable oil formulations for crop protection use have synthetic emulsifiers in them. Without the emulsifier, the oils would not work as a spray material for crops. It could be argued that these products would not be wholly natural substitutes. Further comments were received stating that multi-year grower comparative tests between vegetable oil products and the petroleum derived oils showed that the vegetable oils did not control certain target pests adequately. Research data that could verify the claim that the vegetable oil alternatives are truly adequate as a replacement is needed.

IV. Committee Recommendation:

Recommendations based upon comments received- 205.601(e) and (i)

The Crops Committee recommends the renewal of the following material in these categories of uses:

- (e) As insecticides (including acaricides or mite control).**
- (6) Oils, horticultural- narrow range oils as dormant, suffocating, and summer oils.**
- (i) As plant disease control.**
- (6) Oils, horticultural- narrow range oils as dormant, suffocating, and summer oils.**

Moved: Rigoberto Delgado
Committee vote: 3-1

Second: Jeff Moyer
Absent: Ostiguy

Board vote: